VOLUME 15, NUMBER 3

JUNE, JULY 1999

SACWN
SACRAMENTO AREA CAREER WOMEN'S NETWORK INC.

Gay Pride

WHAT GAY PRIDE MEANS TO US

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall riots that occurred in New York City in June 1969. These riots started when gay people, tired of police harassment, finally fought back, barricading Christopher Street outside the Stonewall Bar and keeping the police at bay. This event is remembered as the beginning of the modern gay and lesbian movement.

Each year the anniversary of these riots is commemorated by gay pride celebrations all over the country. The national theme of this year's celebration,"Prideful Past, Powerful Future," will be incorporated into the Sacramento Pride celebration, which will be held from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, June 12, in Southside Park, at 6th and W streets in Sacramento.

As this time of remembrance approached, SACWN asked community women attending the SACWN picnic to share what gay pride means to them. These are their responses.

Sue Wenke, from Lake Shasta: "To me, gay pride means the freedom to be who you are. Being out has been an important part of my life. Things are closeted up in the Redding area, so I started a discussion group called the Lavender Circle. We talk about everything from coming out to parents, to sex. The sense of community is wonderful. I'm proud of who I am. I'm proud of being a lesbian!"

Beth, a law student from Sacramento: "Being out wasn't so easy for me. Even though I was in a long-term relationship, we always covered up. I had a 'boyfriend' the whole time. Finally I got tired of hiding and decided to tell people. Guess what they said they knew anyway!"

Continued on page 2.

IT IS GAY PRIDE MONTH AND WE ARE PROUD OF...

YOU--the women of Sacramento's gay and lesbian community. Although, as individuals, you may seldom receive public acclaim or recognition, you are the ones who make our community strong and healthy as you quietly go about your lives.

Like the grains of sand that compose a beautiful beach, you are too often overlooked as sightseers exclaim instead over the dramatic cliffs or the magnificent sunset. Yet it is each one of you upon whom our community is dependent for its texture and its strength.

Please take at a few minutes sometime this month to acknowledge yourself and all that you contribute to our community just by being part of it. Even though we may not all know each other, we most definitely all need each other. This is a great time to help build and celebrate our solidarity by coming out to participate in one or more of the special events our community has scheduled for Gay Pride Month.

COME TO THE

SACWN PRIDE EVENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 12
AT
JOSEPH'S
1454 Del Paso Blvd.
See Page 4 for details.

Gay Pride

Continued from page 1

Diana Rapp, from Sacramento: "Gay pride means I feel complete now. before, I always felt there was a piece missing. I kept trying to fit in; now I'm just me. I'm just so proud to be who I am, and I really appreciate it when people want to know me now. The first person I came out to was my oldest daughter, when she was in her mid-twenties. She was very receptive, but she said something really funny. She said: "Mom, that's wonderful. I always wondered why you wore tennis shoes!"

Beryl Mayne, from Auburn: "Coming out is still an ongoing process for me. I'm not out at work--I just don't socialize with straight people, but I am out to my two children and my brother, who's a therapist. When I came out to my brother, when I was 48, he said he already knew. I asked him how long he had known. He said: 'Oh, since you were about 11!' Am I proud of being gay? Yeah! I'm proud of being me!"

Vikki Peeler, from Fair Oaks: "One of my fond memories of Gay Pride Day is one year when my ex and I went to a Gay Pride Parade in San Francisco with her two daughters, one 11 and one 14. A couple of guys in the parade were dressed in tutus. They weren't wearing underwear, and when they twirled around, their penises were flying in the wind! The kids thought it was really funny, and we all enjoyed the rest of the parade."

Gail, from Sacramento: "I came out in the 60's. I came to Sacramento from San Francisco in 1974. At that time in San Francisco, you could lead a completely uncircumscribed life. It was much less liberal in Sacramento. I know people here who got beaten up for being gay. We were always prepared for a confrontation. I still feel a little nervous about potential violence, but being gay has become much more mainstream here now. You can refer to your partner without having to steal yourself for a reaction of horror."

Jean, from Sacramento: "I am from back East. People there are much more conservative. I never even thought about it until last year, when I went down to the park for the Gay Pride Celebration. One thing I thought was disappointing last year was that I bought some rainbow stickers from a vendor. He was out of them, but said he would send them, so I paid him, but he didn't send them. This year I'm going to talk to him about that!"

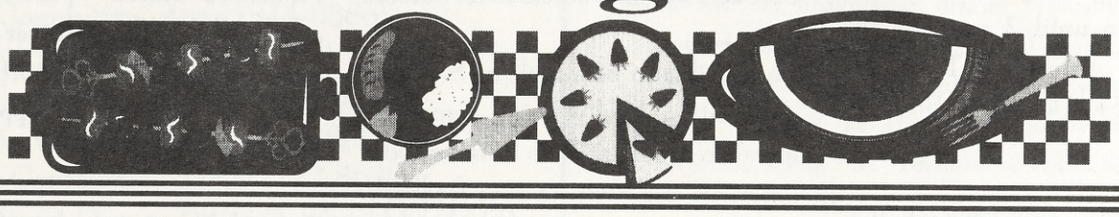
Lee Ann, from Sacramento: "I always felt that being gay meant being mainstream. I lived in San Francisco and participated in the first Gay Olympics there. I marched when Harvey Milk was killed. But I've experienced discrimination. I'm in the insurance business, and once I won a sales contest put on by the company I worked for. The awards were to be presented in Canada. My boss told me I couldn't take my partner, so I went alone. I sat at the table with the president of the company and other recipients. The other winners all had their spouses with them, and when they got up to make their acceptance speeches, they turned to their spouses and thanked them for their support. My partner had been supportive, too, so when I got up, I named her and thanked her. I felt so bad that my boss told me she couldn't come that I quit my job right after. That was the end of corporate America for me! I started my own business that year and have been in business for myself ever since."

Cheryl, from Sacramento: "To me, gay pride means a lack of shame. I can do what I want to do and there's nothing you can do about. When I first came out, when I was in my 20s, I thought I had to keep it secret. now I'm totally out. Some people have a problem with it--that's their problem!"

Lisa Walsh, from San Francisco: "I'm a lot more comfortable now that I'm out to my friends and family. My brother is very happy about it. He hated all my boyfriends, but he's liked all my girlfriends!"

SACWN General Meeting
Saturday, June 19
10a.m.-2 p.m.
Sizzler, 2030 Fulton Ave.
Representatives from the Lavender Library, Archives, and Cultural Exchange ("LLACE") will be there to tell us about the library, which just had its grand opening celebration.

SACWN PICNIC: A Smashing Success !



The barbecues were sizzlin'--and so were the volleyball players--as approximately 80 women gathered from as far away as Lake Shasta and San Francisco on a picture-perfect day to share food, fun and friendship at the SACWN picnic in East Portal Park on May 15.

"It was like my vision of heaven come to life before my eyes," said Phoenix Ewing, a SACWN steering committee member. "I always think of heaven as a green, grassy place with rolling hills, filled with women of different ages, sizes and colors, playing and laughing together--and there they were!"

The activities were as diverse as the crowd who came to enjoy the beautiful spring day with friends they knew and friends they made while there. Besides volleyball, there were games of croquet, horseshoes, soccer and Frisbee. For some, the ultimate choice was to sit in the shade of the many tall trees and converse with friends while enjoying the ice-cold watermelon provided by SACWN. "It couldn't have been a more perfect day," exclaimed Gretchen Jung, whose mood couldn't help but be enhanced by being the big winner at the "friendly" card game she was playing with several other women.

And was there ever food! Besides watermelon and a baby pool filled with iced soft drinks and bottled water, women brought it all, from the traditional picnic fare of hotdogs, potato salad and coleslaw, to barbecued steaks and chicken.

However, hats were off to the group who produced a gourmet meal of shish kebab and marinated fresh pineapple, and were gracious enough to share a taste with those nearby.

On display for the first time was SACWN's newly-built portable booth and lavender and white banner, surrounding a display table that featured SACWN newsletters and flyers about SACWN's next event--a gay pride day event scheduled for June 12. (See story elsewhere in this newsletter.)

"This was an awesome day--one of the friendliest, most mellow events I have ever attended, and I hope SACWN does it again next year," said Toni Taylor as she was packing up her gear at the end of the day, a leftover watermelon under one arm.

You won't have to wait until next year, Toni. Thanks to the energy of the crowd and the positive feedback, SACWN is going to have another picnic later on in the summer. Lesbian mothers take note: the next picnic will be a family picnic, where children will be welcome. Watch for more details in our next newsletter.



SACWN TO SPONSOR WOMEN'S PRIDE EVENT

To celebrate ourselves on Gay Pride Day, SACWN is sponsoring a Women's Pride Event Saturday, June 12 from 9 pm until 2 am on the second floor of Joseph's Town and Country, 1454 Del Paso Blvd. in Sacramento,

There will be dancing, a light buffet, door prizes and a 50/50 raffle, with proceeds to benefit SACWN and breast cancer research.

Pool tables and video games will be available, as well as a no host bar. Smokers will have access to an outdoor patio.

There will also be a table of SACWN information, and steering committee members on hand to answer your questions and listen to your feedback.

Thanks to the generosity of Joseph, we are able to limit the cover charge to $5 per person, payable on entry.

There is a restaurant on the premises, and some of us (who won't be at the Monarch's season opener!) plan to come early and have dinner before the dance as a gesture of support to Joseph, who is being so supportive of SACWN.

If you'd like to volunteer your assistance for this event, or would like to join us for dinner, please call Anna at (916) 344-0386.

SACRAMENTO PRIDE CELEBRATION
Celebrate Sacramento's Prideful Past and Powerful Future.
Saturday, June 12, 10 am to 5 pm
Southside Park at 6th and W

Look for SACWN's booth.
We'll be there.

The SACWN Name

The Steering Committee did it! We thought about it individually for a while. We read the comments ideas from our subscribers. We remembered the history of the term "career woman" as a euphemism for lesbian and the later "networking" phase for career women in response to the "good ol' boys clubs." We decided the word "career" no longer applied. We are not about our jobs. We are about our community. So, SACWN is now:

SACRAMENTO AREA COMMUNITY WOMEN'S NETWORK

SACWN's MISSION

"SACWN's mission is to provide lesbians with social activities in a safe and vibrant environment, a supportive network, and resources to link our diverse community"

There it is, our current mission statement. The statement was selected, discussed, developed and accepted at the General Subscriber Meeting last March. The "mission" was easy to determine. We all want to have fun, to share activities and experiences with lesbians, big groups of lesbians, small groups of lesbians; a crowd of lesbians at a concert, in a park or where ever is a grand, exhilarating experience. Our "mission" seeks to satisfy our need for each other, our need for community. We will use this statement to guide our choices for SACWN.

(Feel like you missed out on that discussion? If you had known you would have added your insights and ideas? Don't just let it go. There are more opportunities to share with us. Come to the next General Subscribers Meeting, write to us, or call and leave us a message. Broaden our collective view by adding your own.)

COMMITTEE UPDATE

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, SACWN committees are still evolving. Here is the most recent list of committees and their contact persons:

Activities Committee--Anna (344-0386)
Data Entry--Nancy (452-6007)
Mailings Committee--Joy (452-5513)
Membership Committee--Gretchen (922-6287)
Newsletter Committee--Sandy (772-8630)
Special Interest Groups ("SIGs")--Dee (443-2377)
Volunteer Coordinator and
Community Outreach--Phoenix (372-6051)
Website Coordinator--Debbie (desertwolf3@aol.com)
Welcoming Committee--Joyce (451-3018)

Women interested in participating in any of these committees are encourage to contact the coordinators.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The activities committee is looking for volunteers for the following:

- Acts Needed for Upcoming Talent Show
- Hosts for a progressive dinner at their homes this summer. A progressive dinner typically begins with appetizers and continues with salad/soups, main course, and dessert. The participants visit the various hostesses at their homes as the meal progresses. Sounds interesting doesn't it? Perhaps we could end the dinner with coffee, drinks and socializing.
- Organizers to help Kelly from Fairfield. who has volunteered to put together a VOLKSMARCH this summer. This is a four to six mile walk in the forest with aid/drink centers situated throughout the walk. At the end of the walk, there will be a BBQ and music.

To offer your enthusiastic energy for these activities, call Anna at 344-0386

Latina Fundraiser Planned at Joseph's

A Latina Event (Raza de la Ambiente, 3rd reunion) will be held on July 31 at Joseph's Town and Country, 1454 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento, on the second floor. This event will feature a live band with dancing from 9 pm until 1 am. All proceeds from this event will benefit a latina lesbian who continues to battle cancer. For more information, please contact Chica at (916) 456-2545.

Domestic Partners Legal Documents Workshop Scheduled

A domestic partners legal documents workshop will be held in Sacramento on Saturday June 19, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The workshop, presented by attorneys from the National Center for Lesbian Rights, will be open to domestic partners of the same or opposite gender.

Topics covered will include Durable Powers of Attorney for Health Care and Finances, Hospital Visitation Authority, Guardianship of a Minor--and more. Participants will leave with legal, notarized documents.

Participation is limited. Secure your spot by pre-registering. Donation to NCLR will be on a sliding scale of $20-50 per person.

Notary publics are needed to volunteer two hours of their time for this workshop from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. All notary publics who volunteer and their partners may attend the workshop at no charge.

For more information and registration form, or to volunteer your services as a notary, contact Susan at (916) 748-4390.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

SACWN's Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are small, friendly groups of women who get together monthly (if not more often) to share activities of mutual interest. New members are always welcomed, so we encourage you to call the contact people listed to find out what activities are being planned.

Have an interest but don't see such a group listed below? No problem. Just call Dee (443-2377) who will help you get your new group advertised in the next newsletter.

Half Fast Hiking Group

This is a well organized, friendly group of serious hikers who know how to have fun. We are entering our third successful year of day-hiking with hikes scheduled once a month all year long. We walk at a comfortable pace and usually average about five miles round trip on hikes that are rated "easy" to "moderate". Call for a calendar of events and an information sheet. All newcomers receive a warm welcome. Please join us for the time of your life!

Ann 443-3638

Day-Trippers

The first Day-Tripper excursion will be Sunday, June 27 to San Francisco for the Gay Pride March. We will carpool to the BART station in El Cerrito and then take BART into the City. We plan to leave Sacramento by 7:00 am to arrive in time to see Dykes on Bikes. Those who do not drive will be expected to contribute $2 for gas and tolls. RSVP by June 26th.

Gretchen, 922-6287

Day-Trippers is a new SIG organized around fun activities in and around the Sacramento Area. Many destinations have been suggested for this group but you have good ideas as well and we'd like to hear them. Vote for your favorite by e-mailing SACWN@hotmail.com or by calling our voicemail number, 492-7983.

Poetry/Creative Writing

Would you like to get together with other women for self-expression via poetry, prose or narrative writing? Then come to Java City, 2573 Fair Oaks Blvd., at 11:00 am on Saturday, July 10th. RSVP by July 8th.

Ginger 489-5178

Newcomers

Are you new to the area, the lifestyle, or do you just want to meet new people? Join us for brunch on Saturday, July 31st at 11:00 am at Mum's Restaurant, 2968 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento, RSVP by July 29.

Diana, 487-3124

Top 10

Top 10 is a group of women over 50 and women who love women over 50. Each month we get together for a meal at a local restaurant or for special at-home potlucks. In June join us for brunch at Sloughhouse Inn on Sunday June 6th at 11:00 am. RSVP by June 3rd. In July Top 10 will meet for dinner at Rudy's Hideaway in Rancho Cordova on Saturday July 10th. RSVP by July 7.

Betty at 392-1704.

Note: There has been a change of facilitators. At our last brunch, Betty, Denise and Betty graciously accepted the reins from Paula, Sharon and Kitty. We thank you one and all!

Disabled Lesbians

I am starting a support SIG for Lesbians who are disabled. If you are interested in participating in this group, please call.

Jane G. (530)346-6903

Sacramento Therapy Resources

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Special Interest Groups (SIGs) cont.

Craftswomen

Wanted: Women who like to craft - quilting, woodcraft, ceramics, scrapbooks - you name it! Do you like to do handcrafts and enjoy the company of other women while crafting? Would you be willing to share your talent with other would-be crafters? Craftswomen will meet once a month; those who share a particular craft interest may want to get together more often. The next Craftswomen gathering will be Thursday, June 17, at 6:30 pm Call by June 15th for location.

Phoenix, 372-6051

Mom's Club

I, Claire, would like to get together with other gay Moms and their children for some fun and to share life experiences. Come join me and my children for a brown bag picnic lunch at Folsom Park next to Folsom Zoo on Sunday June 27th, 12:30 pm. This is a planning meeting for activities with our children. RSVP by Saturday, June 26th.

Claire, (530)676-5459

Rainbow Campers

Camp outs for 1999 are listed below. Call the Wagon Master indicated for each trip and they will provide you with necessary details. Since reservations are required, the earlier you call, the better.

June 18-20	Casini Ranch, Duncan Mills; Joyce 929-3074
July 16-18	Bear River Lake, Route 88 past Jackson; Kathleen 684-3741
Aug. 20-22	Wright's Beach, On the Coast; Carolyn 961-4722
Sept, 24-26	Coloma, On the American River; Mary 723-5269

Fool House Poker Group

Interested in a friendly, passionate game of poker every month or so? Then this is the SIG for you. I am looking for women who enjoy playing poker and having a good time. If you are interested call:

Gretchen, 922-6287

Arts and Entertainment

The long-awaited Arts and Entertainment SIG will hold its first planning meeting on Saturday, June 26, 1:00 pm at Cafe Melange (formerly New Helvetia South), located at 24th Street and 2nd Avenue. Come prepared with your list of places to go and things to do. RSVP by June 24th.

Mary, 395-4147

Singles Meeting Singles for Fun

My friend Diana and I are single women who want to connect with other single women in the area interested in getting to together for movies, Monarch games, dances, etc. Join us for dinner at 6 pm, Thursday, June 10th at Hamburger Marys, 17th and J Streets, for our first planning session. We need you and your ideas. RSVP by June 9th.

Debbie, 452-5979

Pool Group

Do you like to play pool for fun? If you are interested in getting together with other women to play pool, call:

Mary J, 731-8531

Books & Friends



OLD & NEW

Shirley Hackert, Partner
300 Main Street
Roseville, CA. 95678

Corner of Washington & Main
Under the RR Overpass

782-READ or (782-7323) E-MAIL:shirley@rcip.com

Coffee Group

Come for coffee at Java City, Sutter Square Galleria, 29th and J Streets, on Sunday, June 20th at 2:30 pm. Nothing needed but you and your conversation.

Can't make it in June? Try us in July at the same location on Sunday, July 18th at 2:30 p.m. Call for information or just show up.

Betty, 731-7192

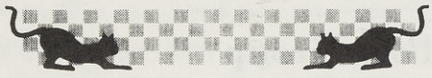
Social Studies
by Dyrria O'Muth

I finally made it to Cafe Ettore's. It was a great place to meet for a casual meal and conversation with Diana and the ten other women gathered around the table for the Newcomer's brunch. Good job, Diana!

Belated happy birthday wishes to Gretchen, Mary F. and Dottie, of Top 10. Each received a lovely American Beauty rose at the Top 10 brunch at the Trellis Cafe last month.

Did you see that terrific ad in the May 1 issue of MGW for the SACWN picnic? Outstanding! And just who is that blonde, Linda?

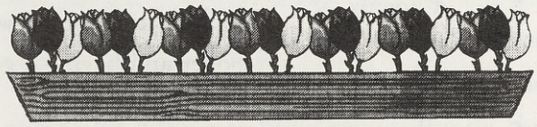
At last, Holden the Wonder Cat has fallen off his pedestal. While putting away her groceries a couple of weeks ago, Sue caught Holden on the kitchen counter attempting to feast on her ground chuck. Thank you, Holden, for proving you are a normal kitty after all.



(Anecdotes from would-be "stringers" out there are most welcome. Call (916) 451-8034.)



Rental Available in private Apple Hill--Camino area.
Seeking professional Single female who is responsible, stable, clean, non smoker and drug free. Spacious 1 bdrm + bonus room, living rm kitchen w/nook & bay window over looking the American River Canyon and horse property. Separate entrance downstairs from our home. Horse boarding & pets negotiable. Commute time to Sacto approx. 45 min. Some snow in the winter months. Only 5 miles from Placerville but feels like your deep into the forest. Credit and DMV history check with references will be required. $650 a month (will consider some bartered work if your "handy") with first/last month pd up front + utilities and cleaning/security deposit. Please call and leave a message 530-622-6241

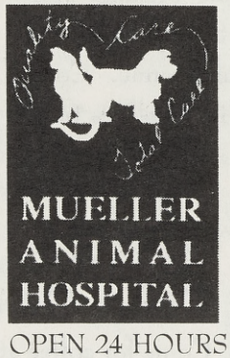


Free*Free*Free

Strawberry plants, cedar trees and various types of pine trees, six inches tall and up. Bring your trowel and container. Call Artemisia after 1 p.m. in Nevada City at (530) 265-3124 for directions.

SACWN ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card	$25
Two column ad.	$40
Quarter page	$50
Half page	$90
Full Page	$160
Classified Ads	$0.40 per word



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Can you volunteer?

We need help in the following areas:

Newsletter ☐ Writers ☐ Editors
☐ Proofreaders
☐ Layout & Graphics

Communications
☐ Telephone ☐ Database

Waiver - I am aware that certain risks or injuries could occur arising from my participation in SACWN, Inc.. events and/or special interest groups. In consideration of the right to participate in such events, some of which may involve strenuous activity (i.e. hiking, golfing, skiing, cycling, etc.), I hereby assume all risks and will hold SACWN, Inc. and its members harmless from all liability which may arise in connection with these activities.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, VIEWPOINT

Want to contact us but don't want to write? SACWN has voice mail! Call (916)451-8034, leave a message and we will respond as soon as possible.

SACRAMENTO AREA CAREER WOMEN'S NETWORK, INC.
P.O. Box 340593
Sacramento, CA 95834-0593

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Special Issue
Dedicated to Jane Roundtree